



Mayor and Council to Discuss FY 2015 Budget

Public Hearings Tentatively Scheduled for March and April

The Mayor and Council are expected to discuss priorities for the fiscal year 2015 budget on Feb. 10.

On Dec. 16, the Mayor and Council asked City staff for information to help guide future discussions about the following issues:

- beginning roadside collection of food waste;
- funding caregiver grants as a percent of property tax revenue;
- launching a pilot of a small business grant program;
- increasing funding for tree

- trimming;
- more staff for historic preservation;
- expanding the City's child care program; and
- putting more police officers on the street.

The Mayor and Council also expressed general support for making investments in information technology and for a 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment and one-time performance-based pay increase for eligible City employees.

City Manager Barb Matthews is expected to for-

mally introduce her proposed budget before the Mayor and Council on March 17. The Mayor and Council are tentatively scheduled to hold public hearings and worksessions in March and April. A final worksession is scheduled for late April, with final adoption scheduled for mid-May.

The adopted operating budget for fiscal year 2014, which runs through June 30, totals \$113.9 million. The adopted FY14 general fund budget, which accounts for most of the City's daily operations, is \$69

million.

Property taxes are the largest source of revenue for the general fund. For FY15, City staff will assume that the property tax rate will remain flat for the seventh consecutive year, at \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed value. However, the Mayor and Council may decide to adjust the property tax rate as part of their deliberations.

For more information on public hearings and worksessions, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. ✚



City Hall and Some Facilities to Close for Presidents Day

Recycling and Refuse Collected on Regular Schedule

Rockville City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, Feb. 17, and several Rockville facilities will operate on a limited schedule.

Parking fees at City-owned meters will be suspended on Presidents Day.

The recycling and refuse schedule will not change for this particular holiday. All residents will have their recycling and refuse collected on their regular day. Call 240-314-8568 for more information or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse.

On Monday, Feb. 17:

- The Rockville Senior Center will be closed.
- Rockville Civic Center Park will be closed.
- Croydon Creek Nature Center will be closed.
- Glenview Mansion and Glenview Mansion Art Gallery will be closed.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center will be open 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Lincoln Park Community Center will be open 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Thomas Farm Community Center will be open 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
- The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open regular hours.

For more information about schedules for specific facilities or programs, call 240-314-5000 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov. ✚

Crash Data Proves Need for More Safety Measures

City Collaborates with County, State to Improve Safety

A recent survey identifies Rockville intersections where vehicle crashes involving pedestrians and bicycles occur most often and has led the City to think more proactively about safety measures throughout Rockville.

The survey of crash data from January 2004 through December 2012 was conducted by Kevin Belanger, a transportation planner with the City's Traffic and Transportation Division who serves as Rockville's pedestrian and bicycle coordinator. Survey findings identified eight locations with the highest crash frequency (see map).

Pedestrian and bicycle safety have long been a Mayor and Council priority.

Since January 2004, there have been 296 reported crashes between automobiles and bicycles or pedestrians—an average of about 33 per year. Of those, 218 (74 percent) involved pedestrians and 78 (26 percent) involved bicycles.

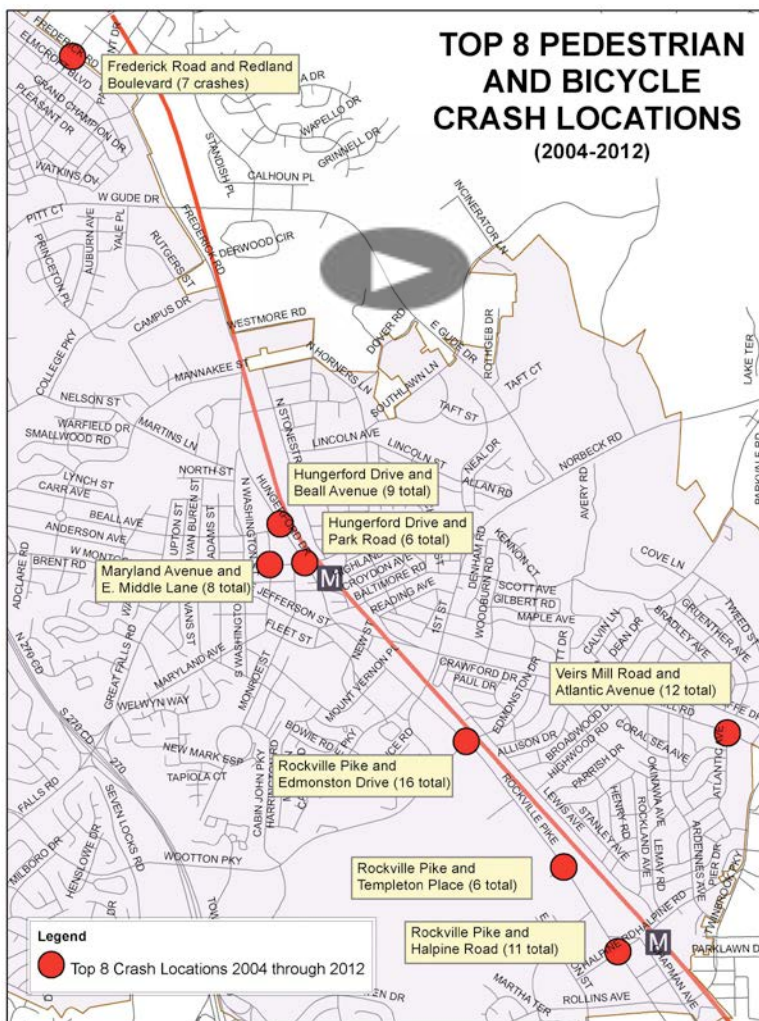
The crashes included five fatalities. All five victims were pedestrians.

"Six of the top eight most dangerous intersections in Rockville for bicycles and pedestrians are along MD 355, mostly Rockville Pike south of Town Center," Belanger noted.

The City will work with the state and county to seek opportunities to improve these intersections. Rockville Pike is a state-owned road, with traffic signals operated and maintained by Montgomery County.

Other recommendations:

- Continued targeted pedestrian safety education and outreach by the City, including public service announcements and mentions in broadcast media.
- Continued police traffic stops and pedestrian safety presentations at citywide events by the Rockville City Police Department.
- Increased penalties for hit-



A survey of crash data was collected from Jan. '04 through Dec. '12.

and-run drivers.

- Use of the crash data to inform future road safety project funding decisions.

For more information on pedestrian safety, go to: www.rockvillemd.gov/pedestrian-safety. ✚

Get Into It...

PAGE

2 Share Your Ideas
Engage Rockville,
a new way to
communicate with the
City and neighbors,
has arrived.

PAGE

3 Senior Housing
Affordable?
The Mayor and Council
consider changes to
affordable housing
rules.

PAGE

4 Call of Duty
City seeks military
personnel to take part
in community events.

PAGE

6 Register Now for
Spring Sports
Kids and parents can
look forward to a new
spring soccer league.

MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

PRESORTED
STANDARD
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

IN BRIEF

Connect with Your City Through Social Media



WEBSITE (redesigned in 2013)
www.rockvillemd.gov



FACEBOOK

City of Rockville City Hall, Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., Farmers Market, Hometown Holidays, Rockville City Police Department



RSS FEEDS

News Releases, Development Projects, Rockville Reports, Recreation Guide, Historic District Commission and Board of Appeals Agendas, Planning Commission Agendas

TWITTER



rockville411, rockville11, alertrockville, rockvillerec

YOUTUBE



cityofrockville

EMAIL LISTS



Agendas, Arts in Rockville, Building Code Updates, Comprehensive Master Plan, Neighbor-hood Network, News Releases, Rockville Reports, Senior News, Sports, Sustainable Rockville, Swim Center, This Week in Rockville (events), Zoning



ALERT ROCKVILLE

Sign up for **Alert Rockville** to receive important emergency alerts via email or text message.



ROCKVILLE 11

Watch Rockville 11 at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 for meetings and special programs on demand.

clip and save

City of Rockville Directory

EMERGENCY (Fire, Police, Ambulance Rescue): 9-1-1

Rockville Police: Emergency • 301-340-7300
2 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
safety@rockvillemd.gov

Rockville Police: Non-emergency • 240-314-8900
2 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
safety@rockvillemd.gov

Rockville Police TTY • 240-314-8909
2 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
safety@rockvillemd.gov

24-hour Public Works Emergency Hotline • 240-314-8567
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
pw@rockvillemd.gov

Public Works Non-Emergency • 240-314-8500
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
pw@rockvillemd.gov

Civic Center Park/Glenview Mansion/F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre • 240-314-8660
603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville, MD 20851
glenview@rockvillemd.gov

City Hall • 240-314-5000
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850

Community Planning and Development Svcs. • 240-314-8200
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
cpds@rockvillemd.gov

Community Services • 240-314-8310
20 Courthouse Sq., Ste. 205, Rockville, MD 20850
sdickinson@rockvillemd.gov

Croydon Creek Nature Center • 240-314-8770
852 Avery Rd., Rockville, MD 20851
naturecenter@rockvillemd.gov

Elwood Smith Recreation Center • 301-251-1692
601 Harrington Rd., Rockville, MD 20852

Lincoln Park Community Center • 240-314-8780
357 Frederick Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
lpcc@rockvillemd.gov

Parks/Gude Maintenance Facility • 240-314-8700
14625 Rothgeb Dr., Rockville, MD 20850

RedGate Municipal Golf Course • 240-406-1650
14500 Avery Rd., Rockville, MD 20851

Senior Center • 240-314-8800
1150 Carnation Dr., Rockville, MD 20850
scenter@rockvillemd.gov

Skate Park • 240-314-5000
355 Martins Ln., Rockville, MD 20850 (behind the Swim Center)
skatepark@rockvillemd.gov

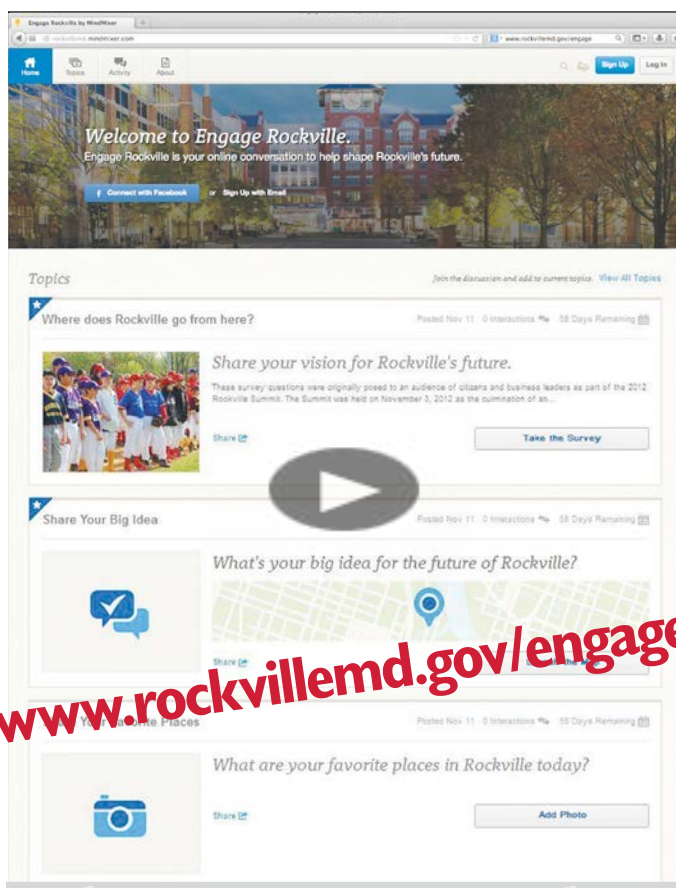
Swim and Fitness Center • 240-314-8750
355 Martins Ln., Rockville, MD 20850
swimcenter@rockvillemd.gov

Thomas Farm Community Center • 240-314-8840
700 Falls Grove Rd., Rockville, MD 20850
thomasfarm@rockvillemd.gov

Twinbrook Community Recreation Center • 240-314-8830
12920 Twinbrook Pkwy, Rockville, MD 20851
twinbrookinquiry@rockvillemd.gov

Water Treatment Plant • 240-314-8555
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850

Connect with Us



Join the conversation just getting underway using Rockville's new communication tool.

Get Into the Mix with Engage Rockville

The City of Rockville launched a new public involvement initiative in January in an effort to increase opportunities for communication with the public.

Engage Rockville seeks input from the Rockville community on a wide range of topics related to the quality of life and City services in Rockville today and in the future. The first major topic Engage Rockville will explore is the City's Comprehensive Master Plan update, which will set Rockville's vision and goals for the next 30 years.

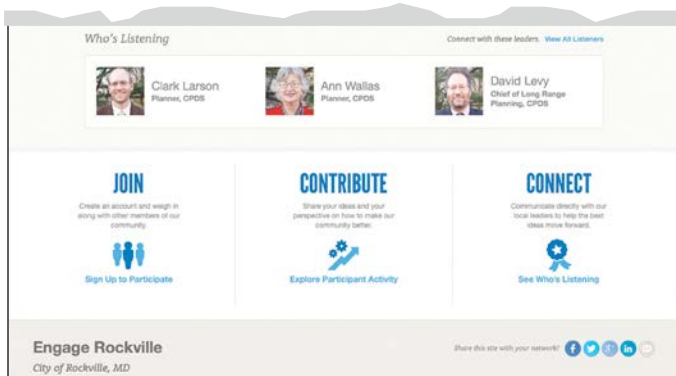
By joining Engage Rockville, you can participate in an online community. Ideas and feedback about Rockville's future will be taken into account as the master plan update progresses. Members can add ideas, photos and videos and use the forum to interact much like they would in a face-to-face meeting.

The Mayor and Council

requested that staff develop questions related to the fiscal year 2015 budget as another way to garner ideas for the budget process. The Mayor and Council are expected to hear an update from staff on Engage Rockville in mid-March. Some of the initial topics for discussion on Engage Rockville grew out of conversations and ideas shared during the Rockville Summit process.

The City invites you to join the conversation by visiting www.rockvillemd.gov/engage to sign up for a free account. New topics will be introduced periodically and you will have the opportunity to read and comment on other members' ideas, so be sure to check back regularly.

You can also follow the progress of the Comprehensive Master Plan update at www.rockvillemd.gov/masterplan or by contacting the Community Planning and Development Services Department at 240-314-8200. ✚



Online: Notifications, Forms, News and More

The City makes it easy for you to do business and stay connected and updated on events, classes, programs and news in Rockville.

Forms Offer Convenience and Direct Connection

From requesting a new recycling or refuse cart to reporting a streetlight outage, residents can direct comments, requests or concerns to the City with our online fillable forms.

From the home page, click the "How Do I?" tab on the top toolbar. From there, click "Report A" then "Concern, Comment, Compliment." From the list that appears, choose the link related to your request.

For questions, comments or concerns about a City service that is not found on that page, click on "More Forms" at the bottom of the list. You will be directed to the City website's Form Center.

The Form Center allows you to browse through a list of fillable forms or search for a form by entering a keyword or phrase in the search bar located near the top of the page. You can also access the Form Center by going to www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter. ✚

This Week in Rockville:

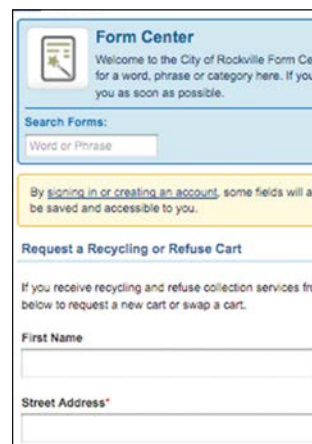
This Week in Rockville, a weekly email newsletter, can help you fill up your calendar with fun things to do around Rockville with your family. It:

- tells you what's happening at community centers;
- keeps you in the loop on board, commission, and Mayor and Council meetings; and
- provides reminders of closures, registration deadlines and upcoming events.

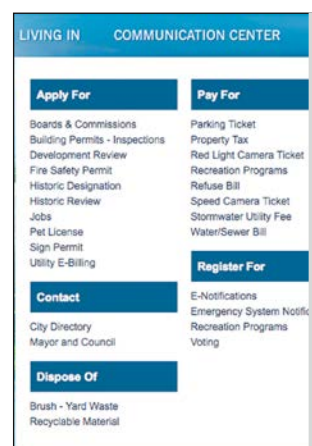
Be sure to check www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek every Thursday for the latest list. There, you can also sign up to receive a This Week in Rockville email in your inbox.

Want to receive notifications on specific centers, programs, meeting agendas, or important notices from the City? Then subscribe to the lists found in the "Notify Me" section of the City website. Get notifications sent to your email or directly to your phone via text message.

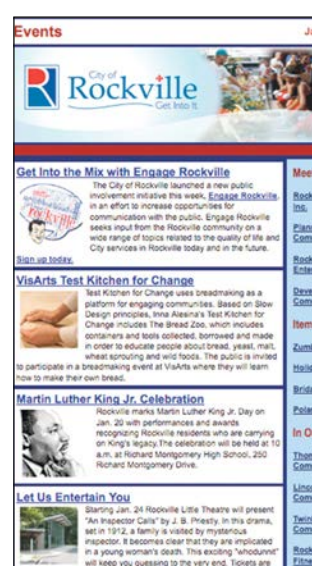
To subscribe, visit www.rockvillemd.gov and click on the "Notify Me" tab on the home page. ✚



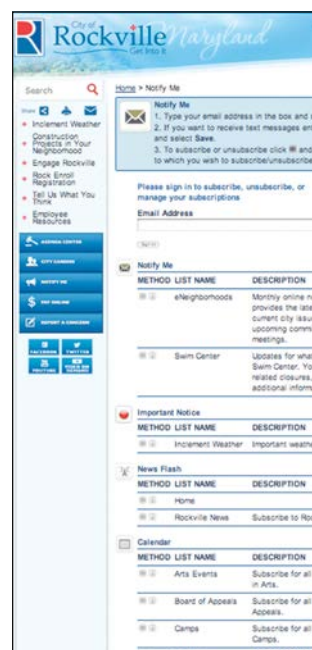
Form Center



How Do I?



This Week in Rockville



Notify Me

Mayor & Council



Councilmember
Tom Moore

Councilmember
Beryl L. Feinberg

Mayor
Bridget Donnell Newton

Councilmember
Virginia D. Onley

Councilmember
Julie Palakovich Carr

Mayor and Council Consider Revisions to Affordable Housing Requirements

The Mayor and Council may adjust Rockville's affordable housing requirements for senior independent living facilities to make this type of housing available to moderate-income seniors.

Rockville's rules require developers to build affordable homes as part of any new residential building of 50 units or more.

Rental rates, plus fees for additional services in senior independent living facilities,

have effectively priced out people seeking affordable housing, City planners have told the Mayor and Council. High-priced service fees cover meals, housekeeping, transportation and activities.

The Mayor and Council are expected to take up the Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) issue for discussion and possible adoption of new regulations at their meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 3.

City planners have rec-

ommended that the Mayor and Council adjust the MPDU requirements to:

- cap the monthly fee for MPDU residents, including rent and services charges, to make it affordable to moderate-income households;
- allow greater flexibility for certain types of projects, like senior independent living; and
- set a fee-in-lieu formula for exceptions to the City's affordable housing

requirements.

Learn more by reviewing the staff report attached to the Dec. 16 or Feb. 3 meeting agendas in the Agenda Center online at www.rockvillemd.gov. Or, call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 to request a hard copy of the report.

Watch the Feb. 3 meeting in person at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or on Rockville 11 (cable channel 11).

For more information, contact Housing Planner Erin Wilson at 240-314-8203 or ewilson@rockvillemd.gov. ❀

MEETINGS & DROP IN SCHEDULE

All general sessions, worksessions and public hearings are televised on Rockville channel 11 and are available on streaming video at www.rockvillemd.gov. Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Community Forum" portion at most meetings. Meetings are at 7 p.m. and are subject to change.

- Feb. 3 (Monday)
- Feb. 10 (Monday)
- Feb. 24 (Monday)

The mayor and one councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 is appreciated. Along with Mayor Newton, the councilmember scheduled is: Virginia D. Onley on Feb. 3.

IN BRIEF

Mayor and Council to Discuss Police Station Art Proposals at Upcoming Meeting

The City of Rockville is in the process of considering artwork to adorn the façade of the Police Department's annex building on Montgomery Avenue.

The art proposals and recommendations from the Artist Nomination Committee and the Cultural Arts Commission, as well as public comments, will be presented for the consideration of the Mayor and Council at their Feb. 3 meeting.

Public comments on the four finalists' proposals were accepted through an extended deadline of Jan. 17.

The City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department and the Cultural Arts Commission began a search last April for an artist to create a work of art on the façade of the newly constructed Annex Building for the City's police station.

For more information on the art selection process, contact Betty Wisda at 240-314-8681 or bwisda@rockvillemd.gov.



Focus on: Cultural Arts Commission

Rockville's Cultural Arts Commission recommends to the Mayor and Council programs, activities and utilization policies for City facilities that enhance Rockville as a cultural center for residents and visitors to enjoy.

The City sponsors the Rockville Civic Ballet, the Rockville Concert Band, the Rockville Chorus and the Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra, providing residents an opportunity to attend performances throughout the year. (See page 6 for details on an upcoming Rockville Concert Band performance.)

Residents can also view 52 permanent public works of art throughout the city, as well as free monthly exhibitions of local and regional artists at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery (See page 6 for information on February's exhibit).

In 2013, the Cultural Arts Commission saw many accomplishments: the public art installations of "Flourish" by Harry McDaniels at the Rockville Senior Center and "Untitled" by David Hess at the Gude Drive Maintenance Facility; the

adoption of the modified "Incorporation of Works of Art in Public Architecture" ordinance and the "Art in Public Places" ordinance; and the selection of finalists for the Rockville City Police Station Art Project.

The commission is made up of 11 members, including painters, photographers, actors, dancers, musicians, writers, art teachers and art collectors. To learn more about the commission, email Betty Wisda, the City's arts programs supervisor, at bwisda@rockvillemd.gov.

Rockville's boards and commissions provide the Mayor and Council with informed opinions, thoughts and ideas that help shape the city. Residents interested in serving on a board or commission may write to the Mayor and Council, c/o City Clerk, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Residents may also fill out an Expression of Interest Form online at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

For more information, call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280. ❀



The first phase of the Duball project is taking shape in downtown Rockville.

Developer Proposes Town Center Project Changes

A developer's proposal to add 178 more residential units to the 485 units already approved for a town center project will return to the Planning Commission for a recommendation in the coming months. The proposal includes requests to reduce parking and to allow for a conditional approval for school capacity.

Duball Rockville, LLC briefed the Planning Commission and Mayor and Council on its proposal in November and December, respectively. Construction of the first phase of the developer's mixed-use project is underway on half of the block of surface parking in front of Regal Cinemas on East Montgomery Avenue. The proposed changes would affect the second phase of the project, which has not yet broken ground.

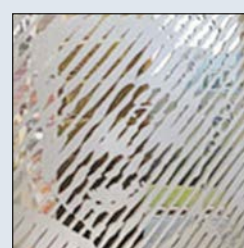
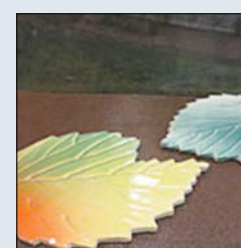
Any changes to Duball's preliminary development plan, the current version of which was approved by

the Mayor and Council in 2005, require a recommendation from the Planning Commission and final approval by the Mayor and Council.

Once the proposal reaches the Mayor and Council, and before their final decision, the public will be able to comment on the proposal at a Mayor and Council public hearing.

Community members interested in the details of the Duball proposal can read a City staff report attached to the Dec. 9 Mayor and Council agenda, which is available in the Agenda Center at www.rockvillemd.gov. Or, hard copies of that agenda packet are available at the City Clerk's office (please call 240-314-8280 to request one).

For more information on the Duball project, contact Cas Chasten in the Community Planning and Development Services Department at 240-314-8223 or cchasten@rockvillemd.gov. ❀



Detail of the four submissions under consideration.

Post-Election Wrap-Up Meeting

Hosted by the Board of Supervisors of Elections



Thursday, Feb. 6; 7-9 p.m.
Rockville City Hall,
111 Maryland Ave.

Please confirm your attendance in advance by calling the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 or by emailing Sara Ferrell at sferrell@rockvillemd.gov.



Colleen Mulroney, a 22-year Navy veteran, spoke at the City's Veterans Day ceremony in November.

City Seeks Military Personnel for Community Events

Rockville will host ceremonies on Memorial Day, May 26, and Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The ceremonies will include military personnel as part of the programs.

Rockville and Montgomery County residents who have formerly or currently serve in the United States military are eligible to participate.

Volunteer speakers must be comfortable speaking in public and will need to prepare a five- to seven-minute speech about their experiences in the armed forces and what it means to serve and honor those who have also served. Assistance with the speech is available by request.

Others interested in performing ceremonial duties as needed are also invited to contact the City.

Watch recaps of last year's Memorial Day celebration (as part of Hometown Holidays) and Veterans Day ceremony on the City's YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville.

If you or someone you know are interested in taking part or learning more about what's involved, contact Rockville Events Specialist Amanda Knox at 240-314-8604 or aknox@rockvillemd.gov.

Take a Lifeguard Training Course

If you're looking for a summer job, lifeguard training courses at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center could offer the first step toward a season by the pool.

Participants must be 15 years old by the completion of the course, must attend all classes and must pass a pre-test. The pre-test includes a 300-yard swim (a 100-yard front crawl, a 100-yard breaststroke, and a 100-yard front crawl or breaststroke) and a deep water brick retrieval that must be completed within 100 seconds. The American Red Cross training course will begin at the conclusion of the pre-test.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be certified in lifeguarding first aid and CPR.

Cost is \$195 for residents and non-residents. Classes will be held from 7-10:30 p.m. Thursdays from March 20 through April 15 and from 4-10 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from April 14-20.

See page 66 of the winter recreation guide for more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide.

Asian Pacific American Task Force to Hold Housing Forum Feb. 22

Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force is hosting a free forum on home ownership, including advice for landlords, from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Feb. 22 at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

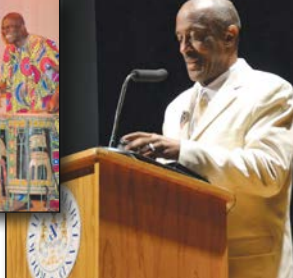
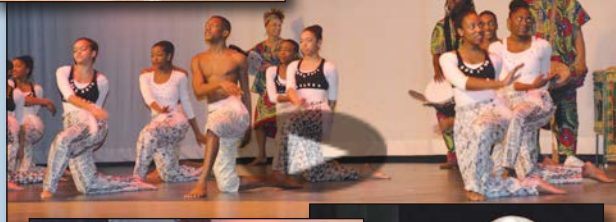
Terri Cohen, a property manager and business development officer with CapStar Commercial Realty, will deliver a presentation and answer questions about landlord rights and responsibilities. Brian Sadur, an attorney in private practice, will address tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities from a legal perspective.

If you would like to attend, please contact Janet Kelly at 240-314-8316 or jkelly@rockvillemd.gov. For questions regarding accessibility, call the ADA coordinator at 240-314-8108.

The Mayor and Council established the Asian Pacific American Task Force in May 2008. It provides resources, educates the general public about the contributions of Asian-Americans and engages the Asian-American community (businesses and residents) in City activities.

In The Community

ROCKVILLE'S ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CELEBRATION ON JAN. 20 HONORED KING'S LEGACY WITH SPEECHES, PERFORMANCES AND AWARDS...



Featured speaker, Dr. Michael W. Nettles, delivered a speech incorporating this year's theme of "courage through the years." Hannah Hassani, a senior at Thomas S. Wootton High School, received the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award. Richard Zeidman received the F. Michael Taff Award, presented to an individual, organization or business that has helped improve the quality of the lives of people with disabilities. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk.

Nominate an Excellent Environmentalist

Applications Accepted Year-Round for Prestigious Awards

The City of Rockville's Environmental Excellence Awards recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis in each of the following four categories:

- Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship
- Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Practices
- Outstanding Achievement in Green Building Technology/Design
- Outstanding Environmental Education and Academic Achievement

Eligible individuals must live, work or study within the city. Eligible organizations must have an office in

Rockville or must be able to demonstrate significant operations within the city. Building projects considered as part of a nomination must be within the city.

The awards are presented to an individual or organization by the Mayor and Council. Nominations and supplemental materials are received by the Environment Commission, which will review these materials and, as appropriate, recommend awards to the Mayor and Council.

For additional information about the award categories and guidelines, application forms and eligibility, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/awards, email environment@rockvillemd.gov, or call 240-314-8870. ✚

Reserve Your Community Garden Plot Today

Gardeners looking for ground to tend later this year can reserve a community garden plot at Woottons Mill Park on Hurley Avenue.

Rockville rents 178 plots that are 20 feet by 25 feet and have access to water spigots. The cost is \$55 per plot for Rockville residents and \$80 for non-residents.

Registration for the 2014 season begins Feb. 3 for residents and Feb. 18 for non-residents. The season runs from April 5 through Nov. 8.

Rockshire resident Betty Truman lives within walking distance of the Woottons Mill plots, where she has kept a garden and involved her young grandchildren for the past four years.

The family's giant pumpkins have won awards at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. One year, Truman donated a winning 132-pound pumpkin to a local goat farmer for feed for his goats. They also have grown corn, green beans, orange tomatoes and more.

The garden plots have been home to the garden of David McGinnis Jr. and his son, Alexander, since 1985.

Alexander, 29, helps his dad with tilling the soil and tending the garden throughout the summer.

They grow early season vegetables like peas, onions, lettuce, carrots and Swiss chard, and round out their summer with squash, beans, tomatoes and corn.

"There's nothing like a good ear of corn when it comes in," the elder McGinnis says.

The family shares its bounty with neighbors and friends, and cans much of what they grow. McGinnis, 69, has been gardening since he was 8 years old, and remembers growing up in a home with two freezers and a big pantry to store garden favorites.

"It's one of those things that if you work at it, you get something in return, and that's always enjoyable," McGinnis says.

At the Woottons Mill plots, gardeners are expected to provide their own hoses, as well as the tools, fencing and more that comes with tending their own gardens. The City of Rockville provides amenities such as ac-



Multiple crops are sown in the McGinnis garden plot.



David McGinnis maintaining his garden.



Betty Truman involves her grandchildren in the pumpkin growing in their plot, and calls it a "very enriching hobby."

cess to mulch and water at no additional cost.

The garden plot program is administered by the Rockville Civic Center business office. For more infor-

mation, watch a recent Rockville 11 video on the City's YouTube channel or call 240-314-8660 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/gardenplots. ✚

News You Can Use



This room on the lower level of the Croydon Creek Nature Center can accommodate up to 30 people seated at tables and is accessible.

Plan Your Next Gathering at a Rockville Facility

Consider renting a space in one of the many City of Rockville facilities with meeting rooms, party spaces and parking. Some facilities have amenities such as access to kitchen space.

The following locations have rental spaces available at a reasonable fee to the general public:

- **Croydon Creek Nature Center**, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- **Elwood Smith Community Center**, 601 Harrington Rd., 240-314-8660.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre**, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- **Glenview Mansion and Cottage**, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- **Lincoln Park Community Center**, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- **Pump House**, 401

Horners Ln.,
240-314-8660

- **Senior Center**, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- **Social Hall at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre**, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- **Swim and Fitness Center**, 355 Martins Ln., 240-314-8750.
- **Thomas Farm Community Center**, 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
- **Twinbrook Community Recreation Center and Annex**, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

City park picnic permits are available in select parks from April 15 through Oct. 15. Call 240-314-8660.

Learn more online at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation, and select "Rent Our Facilities." +

Make a Day of It on a Senior Center Trip

Sign up for a day trip with the Rockville Senior Center and let us do the work to get you to the Rainbow Dinner Theater, Annapolis, Toby's Theatre in Columbia, and downtown D.C.

Join the senior center on Thursday, Feb. 13 for the Rainbow Dinner Theatre production of "Weekend Comedy," a romantic comedy for the Valentine season. The show is about

mature love and new love, with a lot of laughs throughout. Participants will depart Glenview Mansion at 8 a.m., have lunch before the show, then return at 6:30 p.m. Register for course #45087 in the Winter Recreation Guide, at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide.

Experience Annapolis on Wednesday, Feb. 26. Tour the State House and eat lunch in the picturesque capital. Participants will depart Glenview Mansion at 9 a.m., enjoy lunch and the tour, then return at 3 p.m. Sign up for the Experience Annapolis trip, course #45834, in the guide.

Join us on March 12 to see "Spamalot" at Toby's in Columbia. This Tony Award-winning musical is full of fun and the quirky comedy of Monty Python. Watch as King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table search for the Holy Grail, while running into history and comedic events along the

way. Participants will leave Glenview Mansion at 9:30 a.m. and return at 4 p.m. The "Spamalot" at Toby's trip is course #45769 in the guide.



Take in the sights of Annapolis and tour the State House on Feb. 26.

Springtime in Washington will be here soon. On Friday, April 11, jump on the bus for a trip to see the cherry blossoms on the way to Ford's Theatre to enjoy "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." This Tony Award-winning musical will bring you back in time as it follows six awkward adolescents through their daunting and hilarious trials and tribulations. The trip departs Glenview Mansion at 10 a.m. and returns at 5 p.m. Lunch is included. Register for course #45770 in the guide.

A waiting list will be available for trips that fill up. Trips include bus transportation, leadership and lunch.

The Winter Recreation Guide is available at the Rockville Senior Center as well as other Rockville community centers and City Hall. For more information, call 240-314-8620. +

INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



Take Advantage of the County Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program

Montgomery County tax credits are available for Rockville properties located within designated historic districts.

The City of Rockville's Historic District Commission (HDC) participates in the county's preservation tax credit program to assist owners of historic properties with their yearly exterior maintenance expenses. Structural repairs and pruning trees away from a historic structure may also be included.

Ordinary maintenance, defined as repairs to existing building elements with the same materials and design, does not require HDC approval. All other exterior work must have prior HDC approval to be eligible. The HDC reviews tax credit applications and makes a recommendation to the county to approve or disallow the proposed tax credit.

Applicants should remember the following:

- This program evaluates the work completed by the applicant in the 2013 calendar year.
- Maintenance work does not require HDC approval.
- Include with your application photos documenting conditions before and after work is undertaken.
- Only exterior work is reviewed.
- Your property tax obligation for 2014-2015 will be reduced by 25 percent of the approved expenditures.

To learn more about the HDC and this tax credit program at the county, state, or federal level, or to get an application, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/historic. Applications should be postmarked by April 1 and mailed to the Historic Preservation Division, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Reviews will be scheduled by the HDC in May and June.

For more information, contact Jim Wasilak, chief of planning, at 240-314-8211 or jwasilak@rockvillemd.gov.

Buy Energy-Saving Products, Save Money this Presidents Day

If you're a homeowner thinking about upgrading an appliance, replacing a water heater, or even changing a light bulb, Presidents Day weekend offers a chance to do any of the above tax free.

On Feb. 15-17, purchases of the following energy-efficient Energy Star products are free from Maryland's 6 percent sales tax:

- Air conditioners
- Clothes washers and dryers
- Furnaces
- Heat pumps
- Boilers
- Solar water heaters (tax-exempt at all times now)
- Standard-size refrigerators
- Dehumidifiers
- Programmable



thermostats

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs

Learn more about Energy Star products at www.energystar.gov.

Learn more about the tax-free weekend by going to www.marylandtaxes.com and searching "Shop Maryland Energy."

In addition, Pepco offers customer rebates on Energy Star appliances. Learn more at <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/appliance-rebate-program>. +

Rockville Youth Recreation Fund

Please consider donating today.

This scholarship fund provides financial assistance to those who would not otherwise be able to participate in City of Rockville programs and activities.

If you would like to contribute, you may send a check, "add up" on your registration form, or donate at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov with the following donation course #:

- \$25, course #43998
- \$50, course #3999
- \$75, course #44000
- \$100, course #44001

Checks can be mailed to Rockville Recreation and Parks Department, "Rockville Youth Recreation Fund Donation," 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

LET US ROCK YOUR SUMMER

June 16 - Aug. 22

- Over 65 camps
- Before and after care; transportation
- One- and multi-week options
- Open to all; ages 3-16
- Celebrating more than 50 years of summer fun
- Registration begins Jan. 21; early-bird special ends March 18

www.rockvillemd.gov/camps • 240-314-8620



Budding Artists: Enter Your Masterpiece in the Student Art Show

Rockville's Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is looking for great student artwork to display in the gallery this spring.

The Student Art Show runs March 2-20. Students from kindergarten through grade 12, who live within the City limits of Rockville, can drop off one 2-D or 3-D art piece at Glenview Mansion from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Feb. 23.

Each piece of art must be able to stand up on its own or be pre-strung with wire or string for hanging. Artwork from students in grades 4-12 will be judged and ribbons will be awarded.

This popular show will be on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, 603 Edmonston Dr.

For more information, contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov, or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/arts.

Bring Your Family and Friends to Bingo Night

The Lincoln Park Community Center is hosting a family bingo night from 7-8:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28.

Join the fun as we turn the barrel and pick the letters and numbers that may make you a winner. Prizes are part of the fun, so invite your friends and family for this crazy night of yelling "bingo!"

Refreshments will be available to purchase. Register online at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov with course #45893. Cost is \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-residents.

For more information, call the community center at 240-314-8780.

Valentine's Day and February Fun Events

The City of Rockville will paint the town red with events to celebrate Valentine's Day and to enjoy the company of friends.

On Friday, Feb. 7 from 7-9 p.m., bring your family and friends to Twinbrook Community Recreation

continued on pg. 8...

Arts & Entertainment



Vessels, by William Peirce, is one of the works on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery in February.

Glenview Gallery Features Works in Wax and Wood and Photos in February

Opening Reception and Concert Features Chamber Music on Antique Instruments

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery will exhibit works in wax and wood and experimental photography in February.

The free exhibit, Feb. 2-21, will feature wood vessels by William Peirce, encaustic pieces by Washington Wax Works and experimental photography by Gordana Gerskovic.

An opening reception will be held 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2

At 2 p.m. on Feb. 2, the conservatory on the mansion's first floor hosts a concert of chamber music masterpieces from the Baroque and Classical eras, using antique instruments, performed by Ensemble Gaudior.

Admission to the gallery

is free. Hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. The gallery is closed on official City holidays, including Monday, Feb. 17 for Presidents Day. The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is housed on the second floor of the historic 19th-century mansion. The gallery hosts monthly exhibits featuring the work of Rockville visual artists and performing groups.

For additional information about the exhibit and other monthly shows, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/arts or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov.

Register Now for Youth and Adult Spring Sports Leagues

Whether you're grabbing your cleats and a ball, a bat or your running shoes, the City of Rockville Sports Leagues has the game for you this spring.

You've asked for it and now we have it: Spring Co-Rec Soccer for Kids. Join your fall team or join a new team in this popular league. Games and practices offer skill development with lots of fun. Check out age groups and course numbers in the Winter Recreation Guide online at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide. Registration closes Feb. 26.

Rockville also offers a T-ball Minors league for 4- to 6-year olds and a Co-Rec Coach Pitch league for 7- to 9-year olds. Learn baseball skills and have fun in a non-competitive environment. Co-Rec Coach Pitch is a great way to get ready for the big

leagues of our partner, the Rockville Baseball Association (www.rbba.org). Find details on these leagues in the Winter Recreation Guide. Registration closes Feb. 26.

Learn to run like a pro while having fun along the way in the Rockville Youth Track and Field program, which starts in April. Join us for weekly practices and track meets. Register by March 6 at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov.

This spring, we have many ways for adults to be active, meet people and have a great time with friends. Men's Softball, Co-Ed Softball, Men's Futsal, Co-Rec Kickball and Co-Rec Volleyball are among your choices.

Registration deadlines vary. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports or call 240-314-8620 for league information. ✚



Building on the popularity of its fall co-rec soccer league for kids, the City is organizing a new spring soccer league.

Rockville's Fitzgerald Theatre Hosts Band, Piano Concert and More

Take in a performance of folk art, swing music, a Gilbert and Sullivan production or a piano concert at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in February.



The Duquesne University Tamburitzans (above), a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists dedicated to the perfor-

mance and preservation of the music, songs and dances of Eastern Europe, will perform "Like Nothing You've Ever Seen Before," at 7 p.m. on Feb. 8. Tickets are \$28 to \$36.

The Rockville Concert Band will perform "Swing! Swing! Swing!" with the Rockville Swing Band, a guest ensemble, at 3 p.m. on Feb. 9. The concert is free, but a \$5 donation is appreciated.

Later in the month, enjoy Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Yeomen of the

Guard" or, "The Merryman and his Maid," presented by the Victorian Lyric Opera Company. The songs contain considerable humor, including a lot of pun-laden one-liners.

Shows are at 8 p.m. on Feb. 20, 21, 22, 28 and March 1; and 2 p.m. on Feb. 23 and March 2. The 2 p.m. show on Feb. 23 includes backstage tours and a special craft activity for kids beginning at 12:45 p.m., and a talk-back session with cast and crew following the performance.

Tickets are \$24 for adults; \$20 for seniors; and \$16 for students. The Feb. 20 show is a preview performance with tickets for \$12.

The music of Beethoven, Bach, Mozart and Liszt is on the program for a piano concert by Russian-born American pianist Yuliya Gorenman at 8 p.m. on Feb. 26.

For more information on these performances, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre or call the box office at 240-314-8690. ✚

Dash and Splash 2014

Compete in the Swim Center's Duathlon

Earn some bragging rights this winter by competing in an event consisting of a 20-minute walk/run on a treadmill followed by a 20-minute swim.

Winners in each age group will be ranked by total distance logged during the competition.

Age: 15+

Competition dates: Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23

Fee: \$15 Senior Participant/\$20 all others

Location: Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Ln.

To register, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide and see page 66 for course numbers and times.

Rockville Swim and Fitness Center
 355 Martins Lane
 240-314-8750 • www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter

FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration required, register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR**, 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800. **CH**
- **Rockville City Hall** 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find something that interests you at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide.

February

1 Valentine Crafts Do you have a special Valentine? Craft some gifts for them at the nature center from 1:30-3 p.m. We will use natural materials and recycled items to make at least three projects. Children under eight must be accompanied by an adult. Open to ages 5-12, register for course #45121. Cost is \$10R/\$12NR. **CC**

2-21 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibit The artwork of Gordana Gerskovic (experimental photography), Washington Wax Works (encaustics) and William Peirce (wood vessels) will be on display. FREE See page 6 for more information. **GM**

2 Sunday Afternoon Concert Series Stop by the conservatory on the first floor of the man-

sion where Ensemble Gaudior will perform masterpieces of chamber music from the Baroque and Classical eras using antique period instruments at 2 p.m. FREE See page 6 for more information. **GM**

2 Scout Badge Day – Webelos, Geologist Badge A naturalist will help you complete the necessary requirements to achieve the badge from 2-4 p.m. All materials will be provided; however, badges are not supplied by the nature center. The program will be held rain or shine. Dress for the weather. Cost is \$14R/\$16NR. For more information or to register, contact Melinda Norton at 240-314-8771. **CC**

2 Sunday Science Sampler Enjoy an afternoon of learning with your child as you work your way through several self-guided stations designed to teach about nature in hands-on and unique ways. This open-house program runs from 2-4 p.m.; plan to spend at least an hour. Register for course #45120. Cost is \$4R/\$6NR. **CC**

6 Nature Tots – Animal Homes (Adult/child) Discover the wonders of nature with your child at the nature center's Nature Tots programs. From 10-11:30 a.m., a naturalist will help you explore animal homes! Adult participation is required; dress for the weather. Register for course #45091. Cost is \$8R/\$10NR. **CC**

7 Annual Heart-to-Heart Family Valentine's Dance Celebrate Valentine's Day with your friends and family from 7-9 p.m. at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy. Crafts, games and dancing are in store for the evening. Cost is \$3 per person. See page 6 for more information.

8 Duquesne University Tamburitians This unique ensemble of talented young folk artists will perform their show, "Like Nothing You've Ever Seen Before!" at 7 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$28-\$36. See page 6 for more information. **FSF**

9 Bookworms – Goodnight, Owl! (Adult/child) Spend time with your child as you curl up to a good book at the nature center. This month, *Goodnight, Owl!* will be read and you'll get to take a copy of the book home. The program will be held from 3:30-4:15 p.m. Adult participation is required. Register for course #45102; cost is \$10R/\$12NR. **CC**

9 Rockville Concert Band Performance The Rockville Concert Band will perform "Swing, Swing, Swing" with guest ensemble the Rockville Swing Band, at 3 p.m. No tickets are required for this performance, though a \$5 donation is appreciated. See page 6 for more information. **FSF**

11 Tiny Hearts Ages 5 and younger can come in their cutest red outfit for the Tiny Tots special Valentine's Day event. Make crafts or sample light refreshments at the Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Dr., from 10 a.m.-noon. See page 6 for more information.

12 A Night with First of the First In honor of Presidents Day, look at life in the Presidents' residence before it was D.C. from 6:30-7:30 p.m. George and Martha set up the first family's residence in New York City. Find out what this was like for two southerners and what Martha did to entertain. Also learn how Abigail Adams saw the White House for the first time. The class will be held in the Card Room. Register for course #45767. Cost is \$5M/\$7R/\$10NR. **SR**

13 Easy, Hearty Soups Learn the art of making nutrient-rich soup for an easy, satisfying family meal from 7-9 p.m. Open to adults age 18 and up, these soup recipes will be taught with three things in mind: your schedule, health and easy ingredients! Note: there is a \$15 supply fee payable to the instructor at the workshop. Register for course #45838. Cost is \$21R/\$28NR. **SR**



14 XOXO After School Valentine's Dance Get your best Valentine's outfit ready and bring your family and friends to celebrate Valentine's Day at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. A DJ will spin the latest songs and refreshments will be sold. Cost is \$3 per person. See page 6 for more information.

14 Late Night Teen Valentine's Party Teens in grades 6-9 will have the Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Dr., all to themselves to celebrate Valentine's Day from 7-10:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person and no pre-registration is required. See page 6 for more information.

15 Saturday Story and Craft (Adult/child) Spend your Saturday morning at the nature center with your child from 10-10:45 a.m. A naturalist will read a story and then lead a craft activity based on the theme of the story. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$4R/\$6NR. Register for course #45105. **CC**

17 Presidents Day Rockville City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day. Several Rockville facilities will operate on a limited schedule. See page 1 for more details.

20,22 Nature Tots – Nature's Champions (Adult/child) What does it take to be a nature champion? Find out with your child as a naturalist helps you explore this new nature topic through nature play, crafts, stories and hikes. Dress for the weather; adult participation is required. Both sessions are from 10-11:30 a.m. and cost \$8R/\$10NR. For Feb. 20, register for course #45092; for Feb. 22, register for #45093. **CC**

20,21,22,23,28-Mar. 2 Victorian Lyric Opera Company's (VLOC) production of "Yeomen of the Guard" Otherwise known as "The Merryman and his Maid," VLOC presents the classic Gilbert and Sullivan opera with songs containing considerable humor, including pun-laden one-liners. Shows are at 8 p.m. on Feb. 20, 21, 22, 28 and March 1; and 2 p.m. on Feb. 23 and March 2. See page 6 for more information. **FSF**

23 Rockville Student Art Show Registration/delivery of artwork. Calling all art students! The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is looking for great student artwork to display this spring. Students from kindergarten through grade 12 who live within the city limits of Rockville are eligible to submit a 2-D or 3-D art piece on Feb. 23. See page 6 for more details. **GM**

28 Family Bingo Night Enjoy an evening playing the classic game from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. All you have to bring are your family, friends and your good luck! Register for course #45893. Cost is \$5R/\$7NR. See page 6 for more information.

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the City website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

5 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Commission 7 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

6 Environment Commission 7 p.m. Meets the first Thursday of the month.

8 Board of Appeals 9 a.m. Meets the second Saturday of the month and is televised live on Rockville 11.

11 Human Services Advisory Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

12 Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m. Meets the second Wednesday of the month. See page 2 to learn more about this commission.

12,26 Planning Commission 7 p.m. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month and is televised live on Rockville 11.

18 Rockville Seniors, Inc. 1 p.m. Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr.

19 Rockville Housing Enterprises 6:30 p.m. Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 621-A Southlawn Ln.

20 Senior Citizens Commission 1 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of each month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr.

20 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month and is televised live on Rockville 11.

25 Traffic and Transportation Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of each month.

26 Human Rights Commission 7 p.m. Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Vacancies

To learn more about any board or commission, call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 or go to www.rockvillemd.gov. The City is seeking applicants for:

- Environment Commission (2)
- Ethics Commission (5)
- Historic District Commission (1)
- Human Rights Commission (2)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (3)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (2)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Recreation and Parks Advisory Board (1)
- Recreation and Parks Foundation, Inc. (1)
- Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) (4)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Rockville Sister City Corporation (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Traffic and Transportation Commission (1)

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

Rockville Offers Problem-Solving Through Community Mediation

When a Problem Arises, the City has Resources to Help

As part of the City's Community Mediation program, members of the City's Human Rights Commission and other Rockville residents act as mediators between individuals, groups or organizations in an attempt to reach a mutually acceptable resolution to disputes.

Community mediation assists in resolving conflicts between:

- Businesses and customers
- Co-workers

- Employers and employees
- Landlords and tenants
- Neighbors

Read more about the mediation process at www.rockvillemd.gov/neighborhoods. Translators are available to assist Spanish and Chinese speakers with mediation.

To discuss an issue that may be appropriate for mediation, call the Community Mediation Program at 240-314-8316. ✚

Rockville ofrece resolución de problemas a través de mediación comunitaria

Cuando surge un problema, la Ciudad tiene recursos para ayudar

Como parte del programa de Mediación Comunitaria de la Ciudad, los miembros de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de la Ciudad y otros residentes de Rockville actúan como mediadores entre individuos, grupos u organizaciones en un intento de lograr una solución mutuamente aceptable para disputas.

La mediación comunitaria ayuda en la resolución de conflictos entre:

- Empresas y clientes
- Compañeros de trabajo

- Empleadores y empleados
- Propietarios e inquilinos
- Vecinos

Lea más sobre el proceso de mediación en el sitio www.rockvillemd.gov/neighborhoods. Traducción para hispano parlantes y chinos se encuentra disponible para mediación.

Para discutir una cuestión que puede ser apropiada para mediación, llame al Programa de Mediación Comunitaria al 240-314-8316. ✚



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON CHANNEL 11 Watch www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

Community Gave Generously to Rockville's Recent Holiday and Coat Drives

Thanks to the Rockville community for helping neighbors in need. About 400 coats were collected during the City's annual Coat Drive in January. More than 530 households received Thanksgiving baskets in November and nearly 900 children received toys or gift cards in December through donations to the Holiday Drive.

The Coat Drive, coordinated by the Lincoln Park Community Center in partnership with the Gaithersburg Burlington Coat Factory, collected used or new coats for families in Montgomery County at various City facilities.

Cash contributions to the Holiday Drive by more than 100 donors totaled nearly \$17,000, with the community giving an additional \$3,400 in gift cards. Fifty-five families were matched with sponsors who provided gifts tailored to each family's specific needs.

This year's total of \$57,400 in donations represents about a 9 percent increase in giving over last year's total.

For more information on the Coat Drive, or to help next winter, contact the Lincoln Park Community Center at 240-314-8780. Questions about the Holiday Drive can be directed to the Community Services Division at 240-314-8310.

Invite an Environmental Speaker to Your Next Community Meeting

Learn About the Many Programs Available to Green Your Home and Yard

City environmental speakers are eager to attend a meeting of your civic group or homeowner association to answer your questions about how to save money and energy and make your home safer, healthier and greener.

Invite a speaker by emailing environment@rockvillemd.gov or calling 240-314-8870.

Celebrate Your Valentine

continued from pg. 6...

Center's **Annual Heart-to-Heart Family Valentine's Dance**. There will be dancing and crafts as a DJ spins the latest tunes and some sweet Valentine inspired music. Join the fun for just \$3 per person at the door.

On Saturday, Feb. 14 from 7-10:30 p.m., Thomas Farm Community Center will be filled with teens from grades 6-9 having a great time at the **Late Night Teen Valentine's Party**. Drop your teen off to enjoy their friends and all the fun Thomas Farm Community Center can provide. Entry fee is \$5 at the door.

Tiny Tots special Valentine's event will be held Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 10 a.m.-noon at Thomas Farm Community Center. Dress your 5 and under in red for a fun time of play, crafts and light refreshments. Entry for each child is \$2 and the attending adult needs a current membership or to pay for a day pass.

Lincoln Park Community Center's **XOXO After School Valentine's Dance** is Friday, Feb. 14 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Celebrate this great day with your friends and family. Our DJ will play the latest songs and lead a fun night of games and activities. Entry fee is \$3 at the door and refreshments will be sold.

The Rockville Senior Center's **February Party** takes place Wednesday, February 5 at 1:30 p.m. Celebrate with old and new friends at this festive afternoon of lively entertainment and light refreshments. In honor of the "month of hearts," the Senior Center is also sponsoring the class Love Your Heart Every Day. During this class, Suburban Hospital's Heart Well Nurse will discuss exercise, recipes and stress management for good heart health.

For more information on any of these events, call 240-314-8620.

Neighborhood Notes

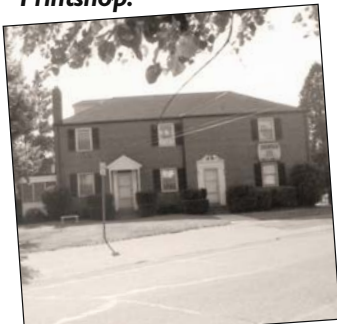
Celebrate Black History Month with a Heritage Walking Tour



Hungerford Tavern.



Hebron House and Printshop.



Snowden Funeral Home.

Take a self-guided walking tour of African American heritage sites in downtown Rockville to honor the people and places that played significant roles in black history between the 18th and 20th centuries.

The tour touches on historic themes common to the African American experience, such as religion, education, commerce, slavery, emancipation and civil rights.

The tour includes 18 sites and buildings marked by full-color exhibit panels, which highlight the geography of African American culture and tell stories of struggles and achievements in the face of oppression and segregation.

Although some of the sites on this tour were demolished for new development in the 1950s and during urban renewal efforts in the 1960s, their stories remain. They tell not

only Rockville's African American history, but the shared experiences of Rockville's growth as a community.

The City's Historic District Commission established the tour in 2003 and published a brochure that includes a map and description of each location. Location markers were unveiled in 2009.

All sites on the tour are within walking distance of the Rockville Metro Station. Public parking is available at street meters, the Montgomery County parking garage on Fleet Street, Town Square garages and the Rockville Metro Station.

For more information about the tour, including a complete list of locations and a map, visit www.rockvillemd.gov and search "walking tour" or pick up a brochure at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. ❀



Beall-Dawson House.



Galilean Fishermen's Temple.



Rockville's African American Baseball team.

REDI Backs Rockville Business with New Staff, Website and More

Annual Business Appreciation Week is March 10-14

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. continues to promote Rockville as an excellent business location with marketing, outreach and business support, REDI Executive Director Laurie Boyer told the Mayor and Council on Jan. 13.

REDI, a public-private partnership funded by the City of Rockville, supports Rockville business entrepreneurship, expansion, retention and recruitment programs.

Last fall, REDI participated in the statewide Economic Development Week, coordinating outreach visits to companies located in the Rockville Innovation Center and the William Hannah Innovation Center. The Montgomery County Department of Economic Development, Montgomery Works, Bio Maryland, and the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development assisted incubator companies during the visits.



REDI also made 10 other business retention visits and assisted 14 other companies. The organization featured six Rockville companies in the "Rockville Works for Me" ad campaign, marketing Rockville as a business location online and in print ads via LinkedIn, Site Selection magazine and The Gazette.

The Maryland Women's Business Center, a REDI initiative, held 18 workshops serving more than 150 attendees and formalized a relationship with the Bowie Business Incubation Center to offer workshops in their facility.

In recent months, REDI unveiled a revamped website, which features a searchable commercial property database, a blog and quick e-newsletter signup at www.rockville-redi.org.

REDI also recently hired two new team members. Business Development Manager Alicia McLeod previously worked as the program manager/business counselor in the Maryland Women's Business Center. Program Assistant Rachel Cervarich is a Rockville native.

McLeod and Cervarich will be working with other staff to coordinate the annual Business Appreciation Week from March 10-14.

REDI and Rockville Chamber of Commerce board members, the Mayor and Council, and REDI and City staff, will visit more than 50 Rockville companies to hear what's going well and what challenges businesses are facing. The feedback is presented at a wrap-up event.

If your local company would like to participate, please call REDI at 301-315-8096. ❀



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the City of Rockville's website. If you don't already have a QR code reader on your phone, there are plenty of free apps you can download. When you have an app installed, point your phone's camera at the code and the website will appear in your phone's web browser.



Get Into It

Mayor

BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON

Councilmembers

BERYL L. FEINBERG

TOM MOORE

VIRGINIA D. ONLEY

JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR

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